

REMARKS

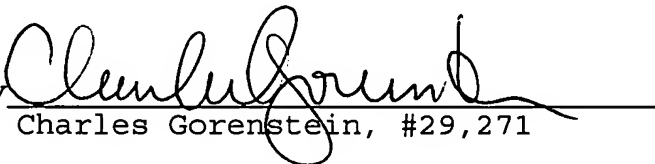
The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

The amendment to the claims is to more clearly explain the purpose of the application. Entry of the present amendment and favorable action on the above-identified application are earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The claims have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) A disk managing method as defined in claim 1, wherein it is capable of selectively deciding whether the area is ensured on the disk medium or [the continuous area is not ensured on the disk medium]not.

5. (Amended) A disk medium managing method as defined in [claim 1]any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the area ensured on the disk medium is continuously arranged thereon.

6. (Amended) A disk medium managing method as defined in [claim 1]any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein it is capable of calculating a maximal time of seeking data in the areas ensured on the disk medium.

7. (Amended) A disk medium managing method as defined in [claim 1]any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein it is capable of specifying a maximal allowable time of seeking data in an area to be ensured on the disk medium and calculating an area on the disk medium satisfying the specified allowable seek time.

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